

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

24 APR 1992

Docket 5
222
ORIGINAL
FILE

IN REPLY REFER TO:

CN920686

Colonel Thomas W. Rice
Superintendent
Ohio State Highway Patrol
Columbus, Ohio 43205-0037

RECEIVED

APR 27 1992

Dear Colonel Rice:

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Thank you for your letter regarding Commission proposals to allocate spectrum for new services. You express concern with the impact of proposals to reallocate frequencies at 2 GHz.

On January 16, 1992, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in ET Docket No. 92-9 that proposes allocating 220 MHz of spectrum at 2 GHz for use by new services and technologies. Under the Commission's proposal, local and state government licensees, including public safety agencies, would be exempt from any mandatory move to higher frequencies. I have enclosed a fact sheet that describes how those agencies would be affected by the spectrum policies under consideration. I also have enclosed another fact sheet that outlines the entire proposal.

The needs of the existing 2 GHz users are of importance to the Commission, and are being taken carefully into consideration. Please be assured that your concerns will be taken into account before a final determination is made in this matter. For that purpose, I am making this correspondence part of the record in the two dockets discussed above, ET Docket No. 92-9 and GEN Docket No. 90-314.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Stanley

Thomas P. Stanley
Chief Engineer

Enclosures

No. of Copies rec'd 0+1
List ABCDE

STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

920686

STATE OF OHIO
GEORGE V. VOINOVICH
GOVERNOR

MIKE DeWINE
LT. GOVERNOR



DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY
CHARLES D. SHIPLEY
DIRECTOR

THOMAS W. RICE
SUPERINTENDENT
FILE NO.

1COM

Columbus, Ohio 43205-0037
614-466-2990

March 22, 1992

Mr. Alfred Sikes, Chairman
The Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street
Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Sir:

The Ohio State Highway Patrol, along with eleven other State agencies, is in the engineering and design phase of a new statewide voice and data communications system in the 800 MHz. band. This multi-agency system has an immediate potential for over 125 fixed sites and 10,000 mobile units and probably more in the future as the benefits become evident to other state government agencies.

For the past couple of years, the Commission has been encouraging entities with wide area requirements and/or large numbers of users to consider more spectrum efficient technologies, such as trunking, and this is what we would like to do.

We do, however; have a very serious concern about the near future availability of the operational fixed (microwave) radio service in the 2 GHz. band. These frequencies are the most advantageous for the backbone network of a wide area system and we fear that perhaps they will not be available. As you can understand, the cost for a fixed network at other frequencies would be substantially higher due to the decreased distances between the required sites.

We have been watching this issue through periodic reports from the National Association of State Telecommunications Directors and the Associated Public-Safety Communications Officers (APCO Project 28) but we are still not clear as to the final decision, if indeed one has been reached.

Mr. Alfred Sikes, Chairman
March 22, 1992
page 2

1COM

It is difficult for us at this level to understand why, on the one hand, the Commission asks users to become more spectrum efficient but, on the other hand, seems to consider taking away one of the key components of that efficiency for yet unproven commercial ventures. This somewhat reminds us of the occurrences more than 10 years ago concerning the planned use of the 10.5 GHz. spectrum for Direct Broadcast Satellite Services. To our knowledge, there is no current activity in DBS, yet many users including some large public safety entities were forced to vacate that spectrum, seemingly for naught.

This also appears to be contrary to the Congressional mandate of a few years ago, wherein public safety services were to be given priority in spectrum allocation issues.

If a decision has not yet been made, we would like to go on record as opposing any spectrum reductions that might hinder public safety agencies who desire to become more spectrally efficient in their operations.

So that we may effectively and efficiently budget the public dollar, I would seek from you some clear information and direction on the future of 2 GHz., particularly as it applies to agencies such as ours.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Col. Thomas W. Rice". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Colonel Thomas W. Rice
Superintendent

DAM/RRS/pmm